



Christian Fellowship Church  
**Rio Grande Valley**

CGB-CC-0103

Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Attention: CGB Room 3-B431  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

JAN 18 2012

FCC Mail Room

*Petition for Exemption from Closed Captioning Requirements*

**Introduction**

Christian Fellowship Church is located in the community of Harlingen Texas and was founded on Easter Sunday of 1982. Our objectives are as follows: to be a dynamic, scriptural, perpetual organization empowered by the Holy Spirit to share Christ with as many people as possible in our church, community and throughout the world; to be a worshipping fellowship experiencing an awareness of God, recognizing His person and responding in obedience to His leadership; to experience an increasingly meaningful fellowship with God and fellow believers; to help people experience a growing knowledge of God and man; to be a church which ministers unselfishly to people in the community and in the world in Jesus' name; and to be a church whose purpose is to be Christ like in our daily living by emphasizing total commitment of life, personality, and possessions to the Lordship of Christ.

The title of Christian Fellowship Church's program is The Bridge and consists of the material that was put forth from the pulpit the Sunday prior to its air date. Each episode is approximately a half-hour in duration and is aired weekly on Sunday evenings at 10:30pm on the local broadcast station KGBT 4. The program is produced by volunteers from the church and is edited by a member of the church staff. Our program airs throughout the Rio Grande Valley of south Texas.

In the interest of continuing to provide a message of hope and encouragement to the Rio Grande Valley and for the reasons set forth below, Christian Fellowship Church hereby requests an undue burden exemption from the closed captioning rules for The Bridge, pursuant to § 79.1(f) of the Commission's rules.

**Nature and Cost of Closed Captions**

The National Captioning Institute charges \$ 300per hour for the Time Roll Up Captioning or \$450 per hour for Pop On Captioning [referred to us by our programming distributor KGBT 4]. There would also be a weekly tape charge of \$250 and a weekly shipping charge of \$70. Closed Caption Maker, a company advertised to us, will caption our weekly program for \$200 plus a tape and shipping fee. [Representative named Walter,



**Harlingen Campus • P.O. Box 530158 • 901 N. Loop 499 • Harlingen, TX 78553 • 956-428-2088**

**McAllen Campus • 2201 Trenton Rd. • McAllen, TX 78501 • 956-630-3010**



## Christian Fellowship Church Rio Grande Valley

11-14-2011]. A phone call to the National Captioning Institute, [representative Elissa, 1-16-2012] turned up a quote for \$550 per week plus shipping.

### **Impact on the Operation of the Program Provider**

The total cost of producing The Bridge for 2012 will be \$36,320 (excluding any equipment upgrades or repairs) . Each episode costs \$600 to air, editing cost \$300 a month and \$10 a week for other materials such as labels, ink and media storage. Closed captioning for our weekly program would be up to \$620 and would increase our weekly production cost roughly by 91%. Closed Captioning thus constitutes a significant expense that places an undue burden on Christian Fellowship Church, which would have no choice but to discontinue the program.

### **Financial Resources of the Program Provider**

Christian Fellowship Church is tax-exempt (documentation is attached) being a church, our main source of income is through that of tithes and offerings put forth by the members of our congregation. Profit & Loss Statement is attached hereto and made a part hereof. We do not solicit any money or products during our broadcast programs. We rely solely on the offerings of our parishioners.

### **Type of Operations of the Program Provider**

The primary operations of Christian Fellowship Church are to offer guidance, hope, encouragement and help to our community and throughout the Rio Grande Valley. We do this through Sunday morning and Wednesday night services, small groups, and special meetings for men, women, and youth.

### **Other Factors**

Christian Fellowship Church believes that the local, non-news exemption to the closed captioning rules also applies to The Bridge. As noted above the program is produced and distributed locally, and the sermons of Christian Fellowship Church are of primarily local public interest. The episodes are not news, they do not have repeat value, and the electronic newsroom technique is not available, notwithstanding the applicability of the exemption, we have filed this petition in abundance of caution and for the purpose of establishing certainty.

### **Conclusion**

While Christian Fellowship Church believes that giving greater programming access to the hearing -impaired public is an important and greatly appreciated action, the closed caption requirement will place an undue financial burden on Christian Fellowship Church.



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Christian Fellowship Church  
Rio Grande Valley

As shown by this petition and its attachments, the Commission should grant a waiver of the closed captioning requirements in this case, because requiring closed captioning would create an undue burden. The costs of captioning would be excessively high and would have significant impact of Christian Fellowship Church's operations. Christian Fellowship Church's type of operations and financial resources are different in kind and magnitude from a mainstream programming provider. Because of the significant difficulty and expense of providing closed captions, a waiver under § 79.1(f) is warranted. If more information is needed, please contact me at the address provided below.

Respectively submitted,

Christian Fellowship Church

Brandon Farr

By : Brandon Farr

P.O. Box 530158

Harlingen, Texas 78553

phone: 956-428-2088

fax: 956-428-3108

Dated : 1-17-12

I, Brandon Farr am on staff at Christian Fellowship Church, and I have reviewed the Petition for Exemption for Closed Captioning Requirements filed on behalf of Christian Fellowship Church in this matter, and, upon information and belief, believe the statements regarding our organization and The Bridge to be true and accurate.

Brandon Farr

1-17-12



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# **National Captioning Institute**

(Phone quote given by Elissa, 1-16-12)

Price to caption a one hour program

Time Roll Up Captioning      \$300 per week

Pop On Captioning              \$450 per week

FedEx Charge                  \$70 per week

Tape Charge                  \$250 per week

## **Closed Caption Maker**

(Phone quote given by Walter, 11-14-11)

\$200, plus shipping and tape fee (weekly)

Received & Inspected

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# *Christian Fellowship Church*

## 2012 Annual Proposal

The Bridge with Pastor Barry Jackson

<u>Program</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>CFC Rate</u>
Sunday 10:35p – 11:05p.....	\$750	\$630

Annual Investment.....\$32,760

Please Note during Sunday Sports Extra the rate will be lowered to \$570/week.



Accepted By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Internal Revenue Service

District  
Director

Department of the Treasury

201 E. Monroe suite #2  
Harlingen, Texas 78550

Person to Contact: John Magee

Telephone Number: 512-423-6117

Refer Reply to:

Date: August 31, 1983

To whom it may concern,

Christian Fellowship Church located at 1701 E. Van Buren St.  
in Harlingen, Texas is a non-profit religious organization under  
section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. As such Christian  
Fellowship Church is exempt from taxation under section 501(a).

Sincerely,



John Magee  
Revenue Agent





# Christian Fellowship Church

Pastor  
Ron Conzine

## CONSTITUTION & BY LAWS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, HARLINGEN, TEXAS

### CONSTITUTION

We declare and establish this constitution to secure the principles of our faith and to govern this fellowship in an orderly manner. This constitution will preserve the liberties of each individual.

#### ARTICLE I. NAME

This body shall be known as the Christian Fellowship Church of Harlingen, Texas, P.O. Box 269, Harlingen, Tx. 78551

#### ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

To be a dynamic, spiritual, perpetual organism empowered by the Holy Spirit to share Christ with as many people as possible in our church, community and throughout the world.

To be a worshipping fellowship, experiencing an awareness of God, recognizing His person and responding in obedience to His leadership.

To experience an increasingly meaningful fellowship with God and fellow believers.

To help people experience a growing knowledge of God and man.

To be a church which ministers unselfishly to persons in the community and the world in Jesus' name.

To be a church whose purpose is to be Christlike in our daily living by emphasizing total commitment of life, personality, and possessions to the Lordship of Christ.

#### ARTICLE III. BASIC BELIEFS (See also Statement of Faith)

We affirm the Holy Bible as the divinely, inspired Word of God and the basis for our beliefs.

##### I. THE CHURCH

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is a local body of baptized believers who are associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the full gospel, observing the two ordinances of Christ, committed to His teachings, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the full gospel to the ends of the earth.

This church is an autonomous body functioning under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

##### II. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The cause of Christian education in the Kingdom of Christ is a purpose of the New Testament church.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance of academic achievements and spiritual responsibilities. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school is governed by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the

Constitution (Con't)

authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

III. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry out its ends. The gospel of Christ contemplated spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free men and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propogate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

\* \* \*

BY LAWS

We the people of Christian Fellowship Church freely choose to have the Bible, God's Holy Scripture, govern the entirety of our purposes, conduct, worship and business affairs. We strive to handle every situation in unity as set forth in Ephesians 4:3.

The spiritual leadership of this church will be comprised of: pastor, elders and deacons.

Those offices required by law to comprise this corporation will be elected annually by the church and will serve their term as long as they faithfully fulfill their office or they resign.

\* \* \* \* \*

This constitution and by-laws were adopted unanimously by Christian Fellowship Church on April 27, 1983.



# CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - HGN

P. O. BOX 530158  
901 N. Loop 499  
HARLINGEN, TEXAS 78553

## Balance Sheet

As of December 2011

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### Assets

CASH-CFC CK (TSB)	\$4,611.63
OTHER CASH	\$750.00
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$272,138.99
BUILDINGS & LAND	\$3,736,129.26
CASH-CFC CK (FCB)	\$126,347.98
Total Assets	<u>\$4,139,977.86</u>

### Liabilities

FED P/R TAX PAYABLE	(\$923.85)
FCB land loan CL-0000141745	\$43,658.79
FCB '07 F-150 loan (143230)	\$14,383.78
TSB Loan - 803	\$1,143,944.30
Ford Credit - #042235222	\$1,204.10
Loan-Albq NM Bldg	\$297,720.65
Payroll Withholdings	\$20.53
Total Liabilities	<u>\$1,500,008.30</u>

### Equity

Retained Earnings	\$2,637,586.51
Current Earnings	\$136,427.94
Historical Balancing Account	(\$134,044.89)
Total Equity	<u>\$2,639,969.56</u>

<b>Total Liability &amp; Equity</b>	<b><u>\$4,139,977.86</u></b>
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**CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - HGN**

*P. O. BOX 530158*

*901 N. Loop 499*

*HARLINGEN, TEXAS 78553*

**Profit & Loss Statement**

**January 2011 through December 2011**

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Income	\$1,599,256.89
Expenses	\$1,514,828.95
Operating Profit	\$84,427.94
Other Income	\$52,000.00
Net Profit/(Loss)	<u><u>\$136,427.94</u></u>

# CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - HGN

P. O. BOX 530158

901 N. Loop 499

HARLINGEN, TEXAS 78553

## Card Transactions

1/1/11 To 12/31/11

1/17/12

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ID#	Src	Date	Memo	Account	Debit	Credit
KGBT-TV				*None	Vendor	
11338	CD	1/10/11	KGBT-TV	1-1130		\$5,040.00
11507	CD	2/18/11	KGBT-TV	1-1130		\$3,150.00
11620	CD	3/8/11	KGBT-TV	1-1130		\$2,520.00
11819	CD	4/13/11	KGBT-TV	1-1130		\$2,520.00
15049	CD	5/12/11	KGBT-TV	1-5102		\$2,520.00
15284	CD	6/23/11	KGBT-TV	1-5102		\$3,150.00
15583	CD	8/15/11	KGBT-TV	1-5102		\$5,670.00
15903	CD	10/27/11	KGBT-TV	1-5102		\$4,350.00
16024	CD	11/18/11	KGBT-TV	1-5102		\$2,850.00
					\$0.00	\$31,770.00